



Iowa Department of Human Services

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INFORMATIONAL LETTER NO.1528

DATE: August 13, 2015

TO: All Iowa Medicaid Targeted Case Managers, Case Managers, and Home and Community Based Services (HCBS) Waiver providers, excluding Individual Consumer-Directed Attendant Care (CDAC) providers

FROM: Iowa Department of Human Services (DHS), Iowa Medicaid Enterprise (IME)

RE: Elderly Waiver Assisted Living On-Call Service

EFFECTIVE: December 16, 2015

This letter describes the changes with the HCBS Elderly Waiver Assisted Living On-Call Service. This service became available to the Elderly Waiver enrolled Assisted Living population on March 1, 2013.

In November 2014 the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) approved an HCBS Elderly Waiver Amendment to authorize the Assisted Living On-Call Service. Approval of the amendment required that the department make several revisions to the Iowa Administrative Code (IAC) for the Assisted Living On-Call Service. These mandated revisions will be incorporated into the IAC 441-78.37(18) through the department's rules process. The proposed rule will be published in the Iowa Administrative Bulletin on August 19, 2015. ARC 2115C will become effective on December 16, 2015. Public comment may be submitted through September 8, 2015, via fax to (515)281-4980 or by email to policyanalysis@dhs.state.ia.us.

Summary of Changes

1. The name of the service has been revised from Assisted Living On-Call Service to Assisted Living Service. All references to "on-call" have been removed.
2. The definition of the service has been expanded.
3. Providers must document at least one assisted living encounter per billed day. This documentation must adhere to IAC 441-79.3 regarding documentation of Medicaid services.

Current Rule:

78.37(18) Assisted living on-call service. The assisted living on-call service provides staff on call 24 hours per day to meet a member's scheduled, unscheduled, and unpredictable needs in a manner that promotes maximum dignity and independence and provides safety and security. A unit of service is one day. To determine units of service provided, the provider will use census information based on member bed status each day.

Proposed Rule:

78.37(18) Assisted living service. The assisted living service includes unanticipated and unscheduled personal care and supportive services that are furnished to waiver participants who reside in a homelike, non-institutional setting. The service includes the 24-hour on-site response capability to meet unpredictable member needs as well as member safety and security through incidental supervision. Assisted living service is not reimbursable if performed at the same time as any service included in an approved Consumer-Directed Attendant Care (CDAC) agreement.

- a. A unit of service is one day.
- b. A day of assisted living service is billable only if both the following requirements are met:
 - (1) The member was present in the facility during that day's bed census.
 - (2) The assisted living provider has documented at least one assisted living service encounter for that day, in accordance with IAC 441-79.3. The documentation must include the member's response to the service. The documented Assisted Living service cannot also be an authorized CDAC service.

Questions regarding this rules change may be submitted to the department by email to lhowlan@dhs.state.ia.us.